

1

Date 3/4/64

SAMUEL B. BALLEEN, Chairman of the Board of the High Plains Natural Gas Company and Electrical Log Service, Inc., 1717 Southland Center, Dallas, advised as follows:

He first became acquainted with GEORGE DE MOHRENSCHILDT in about 1954 when DE MOHRENSCHILDT had offices in the penthouse of the Reserve Loan Life Building in Dallas. DE MOHRENSCHILDT was introduced to BALLEEN as a geologist who had moved to Dallas from Abilene, Texas.

BALLEEN said that from that time to the present he has been extremely friendly with DE MOHRENSCHILDT and considers himself to be one of the few friends that DE MOHRENSCHILDT still has.

BALLEEN said he knew DE MOHRENSCHILDT had moved here from Abilene because he had talked to a number of people, identities not now recalled, who had known DE MOHRENSCHILDT in Abilene. He said that at the time DE MOHRENSCHILDT was there, it was a center for oil promotion and exploration, and all the promoters then there would have left that area by now. He said one of the reasons DE MOHRENSCHILDT moved to Dallas from Abilene was because his wife, WYNNE, did not like living in Abilene.

During his acquaintance with DE MOHRENSCHILDT, BALLEEN has flown all over the United States with him on various business dealings and they have become very close.

His wife, WYNNE, had considerable money. After his divorce from her, financial pressures started working on him on two scores: the oil business in general declined, thus financially hurting promoters, and DE MOHRENSCHILDT's former father-in-law, WYNNE's father, withdrew the financial support he had been extending DE MOHRENSCHILDT. Then their two children became afflicted with cystic fibrosis, and the son subsequently died from this disease. GEORGE DE MOHRENSCHILDT took his son's death extremely hard.

on 3/3/64 at Dallas, Texas

DL 105-632

DL 105-1766

by Special Agent W. JAMES WOOD and  
RAYMOND P. YELCHAK/ds

File #  
Date dictated 3/3/64

DL 105-632  
DL 105-1766

At about this time, he married JEANNE LE GON, who was described by BALLEEN as the strongest-willed person he has ever known, and together they started to antagonize almost everyone they met. GEORGE DE MOHRENSCHILDT got into some very vicious fights with his ex-wife, WYNNE. Through court litigation with her, GEORGE obtained some money which his dead son had in trust. [REDACTED] (b)(7)(c)

BALLEEN is keeping some of DE MOHRENSCHILDT's personal effects at his house for him pending his return to the United States. He described GEORGE as a "wonderful, undisciplined creature of nature", and that the economics and realities of life have given him much trouble. He said GEORGE utterly despises hatred, racial prejudice, and "country-club convention". With the encouragement of his present wife, JEANNE, over a period of time on the matter of racial prejudice, his whole outlook on life has become out of focus, and DE MOHRENSCHILDT has become ultra-critical of all institutions.

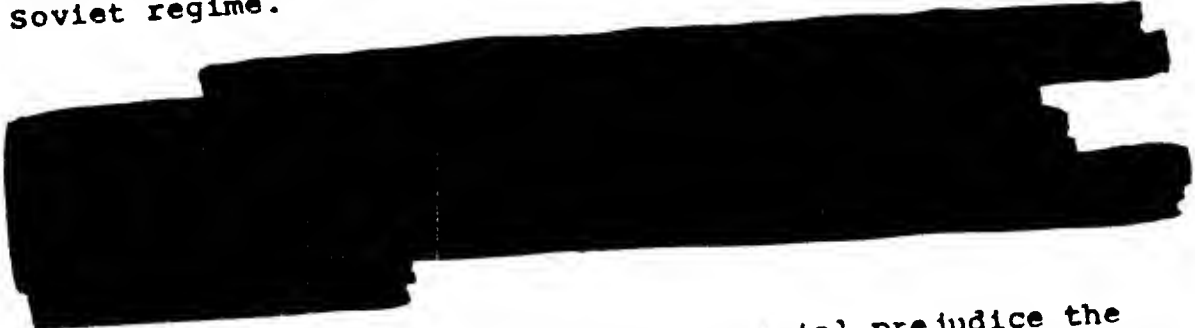
BALLEEN has heard GEORGE DE MOHRENSCHILDT and his wife speak admiringly of Russia. He said DE MOHRENSCHILDT has traveled all over the world and is a completely cosmopolitan man. He has seen the material improvement that has taken place over the years in Russia. When people would downgrade Russia's industrial abilities, GEORGE would argue with them and because of this would often be called a Communist. Seven or eight years ago some ideas and theories which are now perfectly acceptable, such as the fight for civil rights and racial equality, which DE MOHRENSCHILDT espoused, were sufficient to get the proponent called "communist".

In reality, BALLEEN feels, DE MOHRENSCHILDT harbors no illusions about Russia, and frequently BALLEEN would argue heatedly with the DE MOHRENSCHILDTs about Russia, and end up asking them why, if they admired Russia so much, they did not

DL 105-632

DL 105-1766

go there to live, to which DE MOHRENSCHILDT would answer, "If we went there, we would be killed," indicating that people in his class would be liquidated under the present Soviet regime.



BALLEN said that the only racial prejudice the DE MOHRENSCHILDTs have is against "white, protestant, anglo-saxon, Americans" who feel only those with their attributes are worthy of any consideration.

BALLEN said he does not know either of the DE MOHRENSCHILDTs to have ever been a member of any political organization, and, in fact, JEANNE DE MOHRENSCHILDT refused to pay a poll tax in Texas for the right to vote, stating it was against her principles. BALLEN said he knows nothing which would suggest that either of the DE MOHRENSCHILDTs might be a part of any conspiratorial or communist movement. He said that, given a choice, the DE MOHRENSCHILDTs would prefer to spend an evening with a communist rather than a member of the rather exclusive Petroleum Club in Dallas, but only because it would be their belief they would find the communist more intellectually stimulating and interesting.

BALLEN was familiar with the DE MOHRENSCHILDTs' walking trip through Mexico and Central America. He stated they may or may not have come into casual contact with communists during this trip, but he feels they were never in touch with any communists in the United States and had no interest in the theories of Marxism and communism.

25 -

DL 105-632  
DL 105-1766

BALLEN said that except throughout the period of DE MOHRENSCHILDT's marriage to WYNNE, when he was financially secure, GEORGE has never had much money. He was a partner in the Waldem Oil Company, and was a partner for awhile with one EDWARD G. HOOKER, in the oil exploration and promoting business, and made some income from these connections and through his free-lance oil consultant jobs; however, much of the time he and his wife were completely broke, and on one occasion, GEORGE had to borrow \$50 from BALLEN to meet living expenses.

BALLEN said he had been involved with GEORGE DE MOHRENSCHILDT in one oil venture, but that DE MOHRENSCHILDT had not made any money on this venture.

He said JEANNE DE MOHRENSCHILDT went to work as a saleslady in the hat department of a store in order to make enough money for them to live on.

Some years ago, GEORGE DE MOHRENSCHILDT wrote a book, but was unsuccessful in getting it published. He has developed something of a persecution complex in recent years and believes the FBI and the John Birch Society are watching him and may have broken into his house.

GEORGE DE MOHRENSCHILDT has been working in Haiti since May 1963. During his trip in 1960 through Central America, he became friendly with a number of people prominent in Haitian life, and he thereafter promoted a job with that government, at a fee of \$260,000, to conduct a geological survey of Haiti. The Haitian government could not pay him his fee in cash, so they worked out an arrangement whereby GEORGE would take over a seismal plantation in Haiti, which would be given to him, that he would then operate this plantation, and take his \$260,000 fee out of the profits of this plantation operation.

DL 105-632  
DL 105-1766

BALLEN described DE MOHRENSCHILDT as an excellent artist, with a brilliant mind, but a very poor businessman, who may or may not make a success of his present Haitian venture. GEORGE plans to continue his residence in Haiti for the next four or five months.

BALLEN believes DE MOHRENSCHILDT may have promoted some money in New York, before moving to Haiti, to finance the operation of the plantation. DE MOHRENSCHILDT is well-connected in this venture, however, and BALLEN said he had seen a published decree signed by DUVALIER, dictator of Haiti, verifying DE MOHRENSCHILDT's connection with that government in a geological survey.

BALLEN said that two days before the date of this interview, JEANNE DE MOHRENSCHILDT's daughter, CHRISTIANA, and her husband, REGNAR, came to visit BALLEN and spent the night at his residence. He said they had been living in Anchorage, but had just returned to the Dallas area from a visit with the DE MOHRENSCHILDTs in Haiti. He described them as "beatniks". He said he had seen a scrapbook of CHRISTIANA's, and knows she was originally named JEANNE ELINOR, but that she and her husband have legally changed their name to CHRISTIANA and REGNAR BOGOIAYLENSKY-KEARTON. BALLEN, at the time they were in the process of changing their name, submitted an affidavit on their behalf. They are next going to visit Chicago and then take a trip to Europe. REGNAR will return to Anchorage, Alaska, after their trip abroad, to work for the Forest Service.